

## **REMARKS**

Claims 1-7, 14 and 15 are now pending in the application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

### **REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103**

Claims 1-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Suzuki et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,750,472) in view of Maruyama et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,724,150). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 calls for an emitter having a plurality of types of light-emitting units. The emission characteristics of each type of light-emitting unit changes differently over time. The deterioration of the emission characteristics of the light emitting units over time is adjusted by a deterioration adjustment device.

The office action asserts that Suzuki discloses adjustment of deterioration of emission characteristics and that Maruyama discloses a plurality of light-emitting elements. The office action concludes that it would be obvious to modify the Suzuki device with the teachings of Maruyama to yield a plurality of light-emitting units in a display device to reduce the weight and thickness of the device.

The claimed emitter has a plurality of *types* of light-emitting units. This means that the light emitting units respectively emit lights with different wavelengths (different colors) and deteriorate differently over time. A plurality of *types* of light-emitting units, such as red, green and blue light-emitting units is needed to provide a color display. However, different deterioration of light-emitting characteristics causes a deterioration of

color balance of the display over time. To eliminate such a problem, the claimed invention provides an emitter in which the deterioration of the emission characteristics of the light-emitting units over time is adjusted by a deterioration adjustment device.

Suzuki discloses an adjustment of deterioration of light-emitting characteristics of an organic electroluminescent device. Suzuki's method is specified to the blue light-emitting material having a small energy hurdle between the light-emitting layer and the hole-transport layer. Suzuki's method cannot be adopted to the adjustment of deterioration of light-emitting characteristics of different *types* of light-emitting units.

In one embodiment of the present invention, by adjusting the deterioration of red and green color light-emitting units in accordance with the blue light-emitting unit having the largest degree of deterioration characteristics, color balance of a display is constantly maintained (see page 20, line 24 – page 21, line 16). Advantageously, by adjusting a plurality of *types* of light-emitting units, as called for in Claim 1, color balance of a display is constantly maintained.

In contrast, Suzuki discloses stable light emission including blue light by preventing the deterioration of the hole transport layer (see column 3, lines 42 – 47) but does not disclose a constant color balance. Further, although the light-emitting elements of Maruyama include a red, green, and blue light emitting layer, the same effect of providing a constant color balance as in the claimed invention cannot be derived from the combination of Suzuki and Maruyama.

Since the subject matter of claim 1 is not taught or suggested by the prior art, claim 1 should be allowable. Likewise, since claims 2 – 7 (and new claims 14 – 15) depend from claim 1, these claims should be allowable.

With regard to claim 3, the office action asserts that Suzuki discloses a predetermined thickness of an electron transport layer. However, Claim 3 calls for a deterioration adjustment device in which the thickness of the electron donor is adjusted based on the deterioration of emission characteristics over time. In contrast, Suzuki only discloses a thickness of an electron transport layer in an example. Suzuki never discloses a requirement for the thickness (see column 7, lines 28-30). Therefore, Suzuki does not teach this aspect of claim 3.

#### **NEW CLAIMS**

New claims 14 and 15 are added. As described in page 3, lines 7-12, adjustment of color balance is obtained by the deterioration adjustment device of the invention. In one embodiment, the light-emitting units may be red, green and blue (see page 20 line 14 – page 21, line16). Claims 14 and 15 clarify the above advantage. That is, the elements of Claim 14 maintain the color balance of an emitter. The elements of Claim 15 maintain the color balance of an emitter comprising red, green, and blue light-emitting units. Favorable consideration of these new claims is respectfully requested.

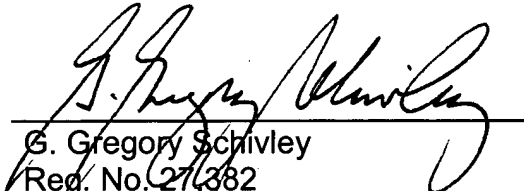
#### **CONCLUSION**

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt

and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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